

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION BERLIN

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 090534

EXCON

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: XH, ESTC, ETRD, COCOM, US

SUBJECT: VISITS OF EAST EUROPEAN AND SOVIET TECHNICIANS TO
US MANUFACTURING FACILITIES

REF: A. SOFIA 0452; B. MOSCOW 4395

1. IN REFTTEL A. (NOT SENT OTHER POSTS) SOFIA REPORTED ON
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DISCUSSIONS BY CONTROL DATA (CDC) ON PRODUCTION IN BULGARIA OF DISC DRIVES AND OTHER PERIPHERAL COMPUTER HARDWARE, AND PROPOSED VISIT TO CDC OF BULGARIAN COMPUTER SPECIALISTS. PROPOSAL IS SIMILAR TO JOINT VENTURE WITH ROMANIA RECENTLY ANNOUNCED BY CDC. PRESS HAS ALSO REPORTED CDC ANNOUNCEMENT OF DISCUSSIONS WITH USSR ON A " BROAD AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION." CDC HAS KEPT COMMERCE OFFICE OF EXPORT CONTROL INFORMED OF ITS DISCUSSIONS WITH USSR AS HAVE SEVERAL OTHER US COMPUTER COMPANIES. HOWEVER, EXPORT LICENSE HAS BEEN APPLIED FOR ONLY IN ROMANIAN CASE AND NO ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN BY COMMERCE.

2. IN REFTTEL B, FOUR SOVIET OFFICIALS WISH TO VISIT FAIRCHILD PLANTS IN CALIFORNIA TO DISCUSS PURCHASE OF INTEGRATED CIRCUIT MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY. EXPORT LICENSE HAS NOT BEEN APPLIED FOR ALTHOUGH FAIRCHILD HAS KEPT STATE AND COMMERCE ADVISED. COMMERCE HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH FAIRCHILD ON VISIT AND HAS ASCERTAINED THAT LITTLE MORE THAN TWO DAYS OF VISIT WILL BE DEVOTED TO

ACTUAL INSPECTION OF MANUFACTURING FACILITIES. FAIRCHILD HAS GIVEN ASSURANCES IT WILL ABIDE WITH EXPORT CONTROL REGULATIONS CONTROLLING RELEASE OF SENSITIVE DATA. VISA AUTHORIZATIONS BEING SENT SEPTTEL.

3. LICENSES FOR END ITEMS DESCRIBED PARAS 1 AND 2 HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY US AND COCOM ON LIBERAL BASIS WHEN CIVIL END USE ESTABLISHED. LICENSES FOR PRODUCTION EASTERN EUROPE MUCH LESS LIKELY DUE TO DIFFICULTY OF ASSURING CIVIL APPLICATION OF END PRODUCT.

4. DEPARTMENT DOES NOT WISH TO INTERFERE WITH COMMERCIAL OR TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN US FIRM AND EAST EUROPEAN CLIENT EVEN THROUGH MAY INVOLVE PROPOSAL TO MANUFACTURE EMBARGOED GOODS. ANY SUCH PROPOSAL WOULD BE CONSIDERED ON ITS MERITS WHEN LICENSE APPLICATION RECEIVED.

5. IN SIMILAR CASE LAST YEAR, ANOTHER US COMPANY PROPOSED TO HAVE FOUR SOVIET TECHNICIANS VISIT PLANT FOR FIVE DAYS TO FAMILIARIZE THEM WITH FIRMS CAPABILITIES
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AND EXPERIENCE IN MANUFACTURE OF EMBARGOED PERIPHERALS. VISIT WAS OPPOSED BY INTELLIGENCE AGENCY AND DOD WHO BELIEVED IT WOULD INEVITABLY LEAD TO TRANSFER OF VALUABLE PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY IN SENSITIVE AREA. VISIT TO MANUFACTURING PREMISES WAS EVENTUALLY APPROVED FOR SALES PROMOTION PURPOSES FOR TWO WORKING DAYS ON UNDERSTANDING
(A) ANY TECHNOLOGY DISCUSSED WOULD BE IN PUBLIC DOMAIN,

(B) PROGRAM FOR VISITORS WOULD BE PROVIDED TO
US IN ADVANCE. FIRM WAS PUT ON NOTICE WE COULD NOT GIVE
ANY ENCOURAGEMENT TO ARRANGEMENT FOR MANUFACTURE OF
END- ITEMS IN USSR.

6. SINCE WE HAVE LIMITED MEANS FOR CONTROLLING MOVEMENTS
OF EAST EUROPEAN TECHNICIANS AFTER ARRIVAL IN US, DEPT
WOULD APPRECIATE HELP OF ADDRESSEE POSTS AT TIME OF VISA
APPLICATION. IF SITUATION ARISES SIMILAR TO THAT
DESCRIBED PARA 5, I. E. QUALIFIED TECHNICIANS PLANNING
TO VISIT MANUFACTURING FACILITIES IN SENSITIVE AREA FOR
PERIOD OF MORE THAN TWO DAYS, CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD BE
DRAWN TO DEPT' S ATTENTION IN A SEPARATE MSG. STATE OR
COMMERCE WILL, AS APPROPRIATE, OBTAIN CLARIFICATION FROM
US FIRM AND IF NECESSARY SET CONDITIONS FOR VISIT. IN
MANY CASES, ONLY ACTION NEEDED WILL BE TO REMIND FIRM
OF OBLIGATIONS UNDER US EXPORT CONTROL LAWS RELATING
TO PROPRIETARY TECHNICAL DATA.

7. WISH TO EMPHASIZE FOREGOING APPLIES ONLY TO SPECIFIC
AREAS OF CONCERN WHERE SENSITIVE INFORMATION AND KNOW-
HOW COULD BE OBTAINED THROUGH BRIEF CONTACT WITH PRO-
DUCTION FACILITIES AND US TECHNICAL PERSONNEL. UP TO NOW,
ISSUE HAS ARISEN ONLY WITH RESPECT TO SEMI- CONDUCTORS
(CHIEFLY INTEGRATED CIRCUITS), COMPUTERS AND COM
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